

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A method to bit scramble a digital video signal, comprising:
receiving blocks of the digital video signal; and
scrambling the blocks of the digital video signal responsive to a remote computer number.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the scrambling is responsive to a processed key produced by a processing mechanism that receives a key of which the remote computer number is a component.
- 10 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the scrambling includes XOR operations between the blocks of the digital video signal to be scrambled and other operands, with each XOR operation being between one of the blocks to be scrambled and one of the other operands.
- 15 4. The method of claim 3, wherein for a first block to be scrambled, the other operand is the processed key, and for subsequent blocks to be scrambled, the other operands are blocks of the digital video signal preceding the block to be scrambled.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the preceding blocks are immediately preceding blocks with respect to block to be scrambled.
- 20 6. The method of claim 3, wherein the other operands are each the processed key.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the remote computer number is a processor number.
8. The method of claim 2, further including determining a video position number.
9. The method of claim 8, wherein the video position number represents the block to be scrambled.
- 25 10. The method of claim 8, wherein the video position number is a component of the key.
11. The method of claim 8, wherein the scrambling includes XOR operations and wherein the video position numbers are operands to some of the XOR operations.
12. The method of claim 1, further comprising authenticating a remote receiving computer.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein authenticating includes determining that the remote receiving computer has a particular remote computer number.

14. A method to descramble a bit scrambled video signal in a computer, comprising:
receiving blocks of the bit scrambled video signal; and
descrambling the blocks of the bit scrambled video signal responsive to a remote computer number of the computer in which the descrambling is occurring.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the bit scrambled video signal was scrambled responsive to a processed key produced by a processing mechanism that received a key of which the remote computer number was a component.

16. The method of claim 14, wherein the descrambling is responsive to a processed key produced by a processing mechanism that receives a key of which the remote computer number is a component.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the descrambling includes XOR operations between the blocks of the digital video signal to be descrambled and other operands, with each XOR operation being between one of the blocks to be descrambled and one of the other operands.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein for a first block to be descrambled, the other operand is the processed key, and for subsequent blocks to be descrambled, the other operands are blocks of the digital video signal preceding the block to be descrambled.

19. The method of claim 18, wherein the preceding blocks are immediately preceding blocks with respect to block to be descrambled.

20. The method of claim 16, wherein the other operands are each the processed key.

21. The method of claim 16, wherein there are more than one level of XOR operations.

22. The method of claim 16, further including determining a video position number.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein the video position number represents the block to be descrambled.

24. The method of claim 22, wherein the video position number is a component of the key.

25. The method of claim 14, wherein the remote computer number is a processor number.

26. An article comprising:
a machine readable medium having instructions thereon which when executed by a computer cause the computer to:
receive blocks of the digital video signal; and
scramble the blocks of the digital video signal responsive to a remote computer number.

27. The article of claim 26, wherein the scrambling is responsive to a processed key produced by a processing mechanism that receives a key of which the remote computer number is a component.

28. The article of claim 27, wherein the scrambling includes XOR operations between the blocks of the digital video signal to be scrambled and other operands, with each XOR operation being between one of the blocks to be scrambled and one of the other operands.

29. An article comprising:
a machine readable medium having instructions thereon which when executed by a computer cause the computer to:
receiving blocks of a bit scrambled video signal; and
descrambling the blocks of the bit scrambled video signal responsive to a remote computer number of the computer in which the descrambling is occurring.

30. The article of claim 29, wherein the bit scrambled video signal was scrambled responsive to a processed key produced by a processing mechanism that received a key of which the remote computer number was a component.

31. The article of claim 29, wherein the descrambling is responsive to a processed key produced by a processing mechanism that receives a key of which the remote computer number is a component.

32. A computer system comprising:
a scrambling mechanism to receive blocks of a digital video signal and scramble the blocks of the digital video signal responsive to a remote computer number.

33. The system of claim 32, further comprising a processing mechanism to receive a key of which the remote computer number is a component and to produce a processed key and wherein the scrambling is response to which the processed key.

✓ 34. A computer system comprising:

5 a descrambling mechanism to receive blocks of a bit scrambled video signal and descramble the blocks of the bit scrambled video signal responsive to a remote computer number of the computer system in which the descrambling is occurring.

35. The method of claim 34, further comprising a processing mechanism to receive a key of which the remote computer number is a component and to produce a processed key and
10 wherein the descrambling is response to which the processed key.

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